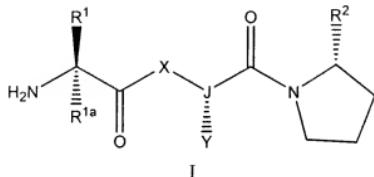


### AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, or listings, of claims in this application.

1. (currently amended) A compound of formula I:



wherein:

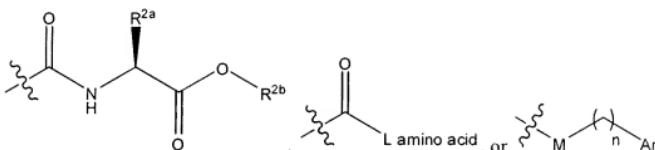
R<sup>1</sup> is methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, or ethenyl;

R<sup>1a</sup> is H or methyl;

X is -O-, -S-, CH<sub>2</sub>-, or -NH-, and J is -CH- or -N-, provided that when J is -N-, X is -CH<sub>2</sub>- or -NH-;

Y is H, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, or isopropyl;

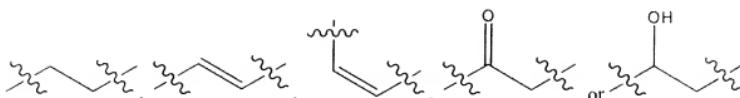
R<sup>2</sup> is:



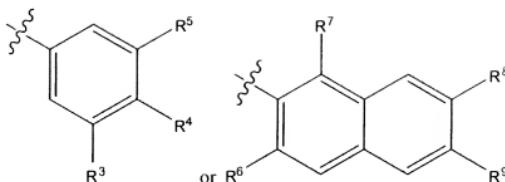
R<sup>2a</sup> is aryl, cycloalkyl optionally substituted aralkyl, or cycloalkylalkyl;

R<sup>2b</sup> is H or alkyl;

M is:



Ar is:



R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup>, R<sup>6</sup>, R<sup>7</sup>, R<sup>8</sup>, and R<sup>9</sup> are each independently H, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl halo, cyano, -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>-C(=O)OH, -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>-C(=O)O-alkyl, -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>-C(=O)NH<sub>2</sub>;

n and p are each independently the integer 0, 1, 2, or 3, and the sum of (n+p) is the integer 2 or 3;

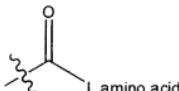
provided that at least one of R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, and R<sup>5</sup>, or at least two of R<sup>6</sup>, R<sup>7</sup>, R<sup>8</sup>, and R<sup>9</sup> are each independently H, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, halo, or cyano;

provided that when one or more of R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> is isopropyl, R<sup>4</sup> is other than isopropyl;

provided that when R<sup>4</sup> is isopropyl, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> are each independently other than isopropyl;

provided that when R<sup>8</sup> is isopropyl, R<sup>9</sup> is other than isopropyl; and

provided that when R<sup>1a</sup> is H, X is -NH-, J is -CH-, Y is H, methyl or isopropyl, and R<sup>2</sup> is:



R<sup>1</sup> is ethenyl methyl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

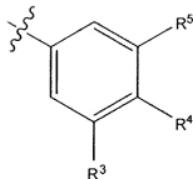
2. (original) A compound according to claim 1, of formula L wherein R<sup>1</sup> is methyl.

3. (original) A compound according to claim 1, of formula I, wherein R<sup>1a</sup> is H.

4. (original) A compound according to claim 1, of formula L wherein Y is H, methyl, or isopropyl.

5. (original) A compound according to claim 4, of formula I, wherein Y is isopropyl.

6. (original) A compound according to claim 1, of formula I, wherein Ar is:



7. (original) A compound according to claim 6, of formula L, wherein one of R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, and R<sup>5</sup> is -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>-C(=O)OH, -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>-C(=O)O-alkyl, -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>-C(=O)NH<sub>2</sub>.

8. (original) A compound according to claim 7, of formula I, wherein p is the integer 0.

9. (original) A compound according to claim 7, of formula I, wherein one of R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, and R<sup>5</sup> is -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>-C(=O)OH or -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>-C(=O)O-alkyl.

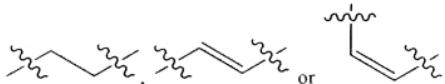
10. (original) A compound according to claim 9, of formula L wherein p is the integer 0.

11. (original) A compound according to claim 9, of formula I, wherein one of R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, and R<sup>5</sup> is -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>-C(=O)OH.

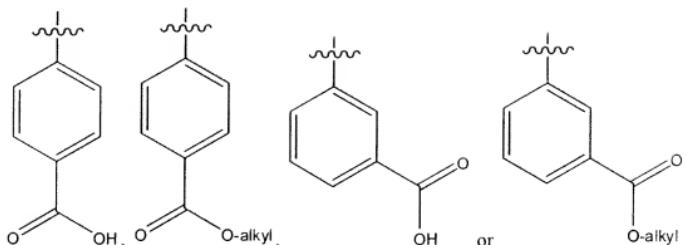
12. (original) A compound according to claim 11, of formula L wherein p is the integer 0.

13. (original) A compound according to claim 1, of formula L wherein the sum of (n+p) is the integer 2.

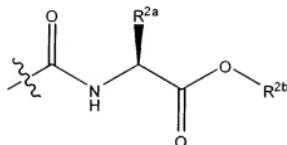
14. (original) A compound according to claim 1, of formula I, wherein M is:



15. (original) A compound according to claim 1, of formula I, wherein Ar is:



16. (original) A compound according to claim 1 of formula I wherein R<sup>2</sup> is:



17. (original) A compound according to claim 16, of formula I, wherein R<sup>2a</sup> is optionally substituted aralkyl.

18. (original) A compound according to claim 16, of formula I, wherein R<sup>2a</sup> is phenyl, cyclohexyl, alpha-naphthylmethyl, beta-naphthylmethyl, benzyl, phenylethyl, or cyclohexylmethyl.

19. (original) A compound according to claim 17, of formula I, wherein R<sup>2a</sup> is optionally substituted benzyl.

20. (original) A compound according to claim 19, of formula I, wherein said benzyl is substituted with one or more alkyl, halo, aryl, carboxy, alkoxy carbonyl, or aroyl, or combinations thereof.

21.-43. (canceled)

44. (original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound of claim 1.

45. (canceled)

46. (original) A diagnostic or assay agent comprising a detectable form of the compound of claim 1.

47. (canceled)